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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

26 MAR 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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RECEIVED

APR 13 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable James Oberstar  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Oberstar:

This is in reply to your letter of March 9, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals, plus two discussion papers released March 1, 1993.

We are sensitive to the needs of all users of spectrum and the impact that these proposals may have on their radio systems, including the costs of required modifications. We will endeavour to protect private land mobile radio systems, including those of public safety entities. Your letter will be included in the record of the proceeding and will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

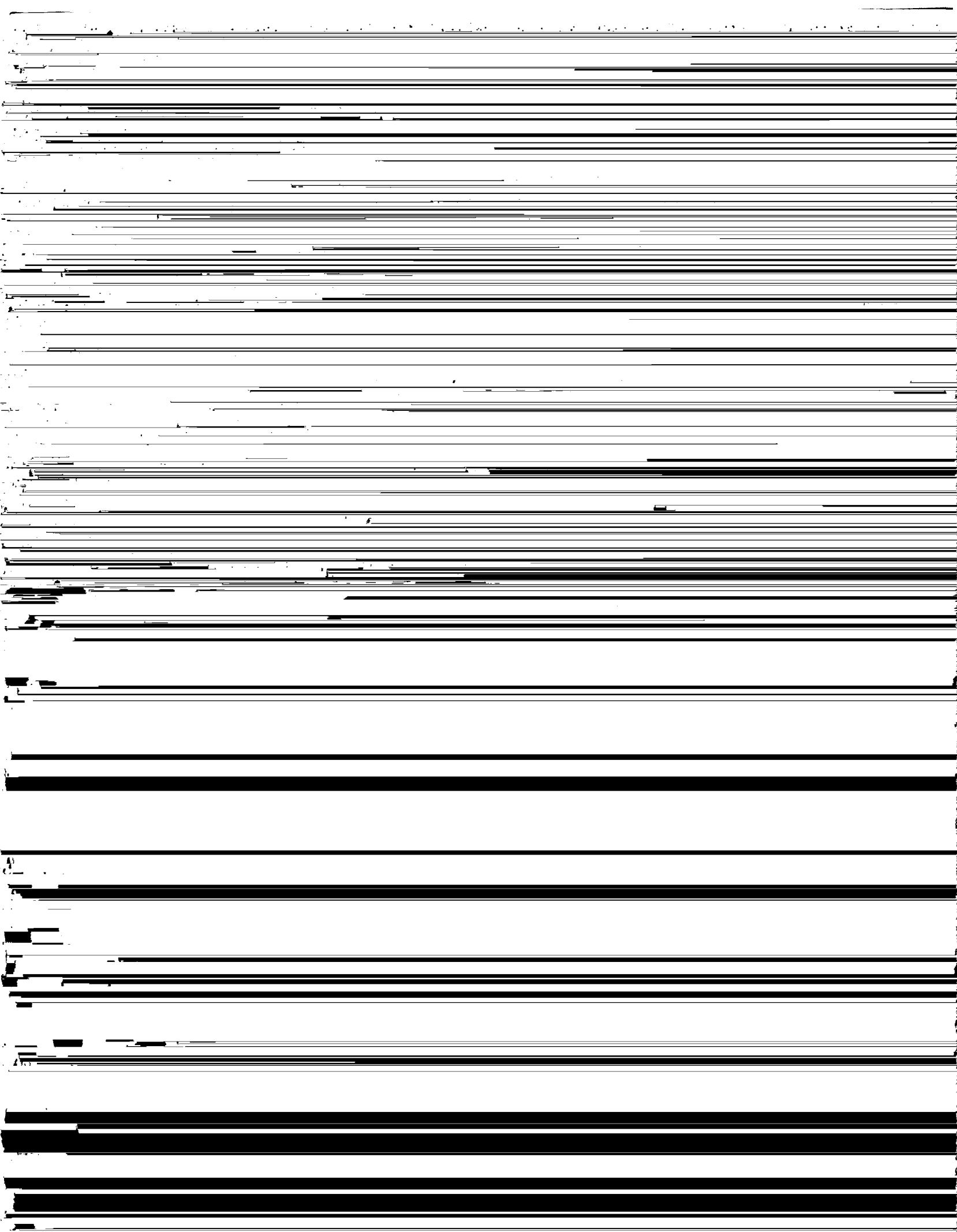
Sincerely,



Richard J. Shibben  
Chief, Land Mobile & Microwave Division

Enclosures

cc: CNTL NO - 9301225  
Chief, LM&M Division  
Chief, Private Radio Division



JAMES L. OBERSTAR  
8TH DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

COMMITTEES  
PUBLIC WORKS AND  
TRANSPORTATION  
CHAIRMAN  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

*PRB*  
*92-235*  
**Congress of the United States**

**House of Representatives**

**Washington, DC 20515-2308**  
*1225*

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
2366 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2308  
(202) 225-6211

DISTRICT OFFICES  
BRainerd CITY HALL  
501 LAUREL STREET  
BRainerd, MN 56401  
(218) 828-4400  
CHISHOLM CITY HALL  
316 LAKE STREET  
CHISHOLM, MN 55719  
(218) 254-5761  
231 FEDERAL BUILDING  
DULUTH, MN 55802  
(218) 727-7474

March 9, 1993

The Honorable James Quello  
Chairman Federal  
Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Quello:

Enclosed are letters from several of my constituents who are concerned about FCC Docket 92-235.

I would appreciate it if you would give the appropriate attention to their opinions.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

*James L. Oberstar*  
James L. Oberstar

JLO/cab

# MINNESOTA FOREST PRODUCTS, INC.


P.O. BOX 190 ONAMIA, MINNESOTA 56359  
TELEPHONE (612) 532-3272

December 22, 1992

Representative James Oberstar  
2209 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Oberstar:

I urge you not to support the FCC Docket 92-235. This change in rules will greatly affect our company, which depends heavily on our radio system to communicate.



g.m.  
Aaron Breitzkreutz

31313 128 St.

Princeton, MN 55371

1/26/93

Dear Mr. Oberstar,

I am a sophomore at Princeton High School, Princeton, Minnesota. I enjoy designing, building, and flying radio controlled aircraft. I plan to pursue a career in designing aircraft, and having the opportunity to work on these models helps further my education.

If the new rules proposed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) are passed, it would greatly limit the number of functional frequencies assigned to model aircrafts. I'm talking about the rules proposed in PR Docket 92-235.

We go to great lengths to insure the safety of our pilots and our spectators. Please vote against these rules, because if adopted, they would increase the risk of injuries and property damage.

Many of these channels that could be taken away from us would go to pagers, some of which are carried by drug dealers.

We have a considerable amount of money invested in our radios. Most modelers own two or more radios ranging in price from \$130 to \$700. With approximately 1.8 million people involved in radio control across the U.S., it would be a lot of wasted money.

I hope that you will help us and our spectators continue the safe enjoyment of our hobby by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

Aaron Breitzkreutz

January 21, 1993

Mr. Jim Oberstar  
8th. Dist. US Rep.  
2209 Rayburn  
House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Oberstar:

I am a 45 year old engineer with a lifelong interest in aviation. I pursue this interest through radio control modeling. I am very active in a local club whose members enjoy building and flying radio control model airplanes.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the useability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for land mobile dispatch frequencies. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operation. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Safety is always the primary concern and many of our precautions involve the careful coordination of the radio control frequencies. If the number of useable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the aircraft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of people participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I feel that it is not wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think that we are as important as business users of radio, but we have a considerable investment in our models and radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry. Surely there must be other radio control frequencies that can be made available for business radio use that will not impact the safety and enjoyment of radio control modelers.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely:

Paul Gruber  
3169 325th Ave NW  
Cambridge, MN  
55008

JAN 22 1993

Representative James L. Oberstar  
231 Federal Building  
Duluth, MN 55802

January 20, 1993

Dear Mr. Oberstar,

I am Vice President of a local radio control club called the Wright Flyers. We have about 55 members in our small club. We get together and share the interest of flying model airplanes with the aid of radio control.

I want to voice my protest and concern regarding a proposed rules change that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). At issue is **PR Docket 92-235**. If adopted, the new rules will impact our club and an estimated 1.8 million other radio control pilots. Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is currently used for private land mobile dispatch operations. This current use plan poses no problems because our frequencies are spaced just far enough apart and have allowed us to share these frequencies without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into a narrower band width and rearranging the band plan. From what I understand of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for the use of radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies would be left for our use if this plan is adopted. A similar situation also occurs with the higher part of the band that is used by radio controlled cars.

Our club along with many across this nation of ours have hosted various youth organizations including Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, grade school classes and have invited kids to come out to local airports for Adventure Days. This is an exploration of flight put together by the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) and local clubs. We invite them to come and get involved with model aviation and find productive uses of their time. Our club members have gained great amounts of satisfaction working with youth teaching them skills we have learned. We all know what kids can find to do with their idle time that can be destructive to themselves and others. Neil Armstrong, Senator John Glen and others in NASA and aviation history have had their roots date back to model aviation. I and everyone I know feel what we do with these kids at these events is 110% worthwhile.

The FCC's proposed use of these new frequencies is primarily for what is known as pocket pagers. The 72-76MHz band does not allow itself for good voice communications because of its wavelength. To give you an idea the police radios operate at approximately 150-156 Mhz, your cellular portable phones are 840-845 MHz and CB radios are 27 MHz. 220, 400 and 440 have shown in many of



I am not going to tell you that all we do with our time is spend it with kids. We spend many hours constructing our models. Models can be small school yard size that weight a few ounces or have a 10 foot wing span or larger and can weight 40 or 50 pounds. We have invested our hard earned dollars for the radio control equipment that is safe and interference free to insure that the models we build can be flown safely without injury to property or others who come out to enjoy our hobby as spectators. I do not feel and I am sure you will agree after looking into this that we cannot approve these proposed new rules plan.

Modelers come from all walks of life. Some of our modelers are retired, some are still in grade school. We have modelers that are physically challenged. Unlike other sports or hobbies model aviation knows no boundaries.


Our radio transmitters put out only small amount of power. The pager transmitter puts out almost four times our power. The higher power requires a license for each operator. The FCC has a fee for these types of transmitters. The FCC tracks the number of this type and knows how many user's there are for the higher power stations. They only can guess how many modelers there are. I am here to tell you there are a great number of us. As I said earlier, the estimate is close to 1.8 million with most of us owning 2 or more radios. This is because we have more than one airplane and it allows us to go to the flying field and fly more than one. It also provides us more frequency options and allows more than one aircraft to fly at once.

Mr. Oberstar, my fellow pilots and I are asking you for your help. We need you to put a stop to this plan. I think that my letter to you will be one of many telling of this story that you may not be aware of. Please contact me below to discuss this further if you desire. I realize by definition that the proposed change does allow the FCC to license someone other than pagers, but if you look into it I am sure you will find that the paging companies are the prime benefactors. If the FCC and the pager company lobby feel so strongly about adding more pager frequencies to further line their pockets, let them look elsewhere. The aero modelers are doing far more constructive use of these frequencies than what I believe that the Paging Companies new customers end will be.

I have sent letters to both of Minnesota's United States Senators and have asked them for their help in the Senate. I believe this issue will be up for a vote around February 26, 1993.

Can we count on you? Thank you in advance for your help.

Sincerely,



Don Fisher  
23129 185th St  
Big Lake, MN 55309  
(612) 263-6040

1/22/93

Rep. James Oberstar

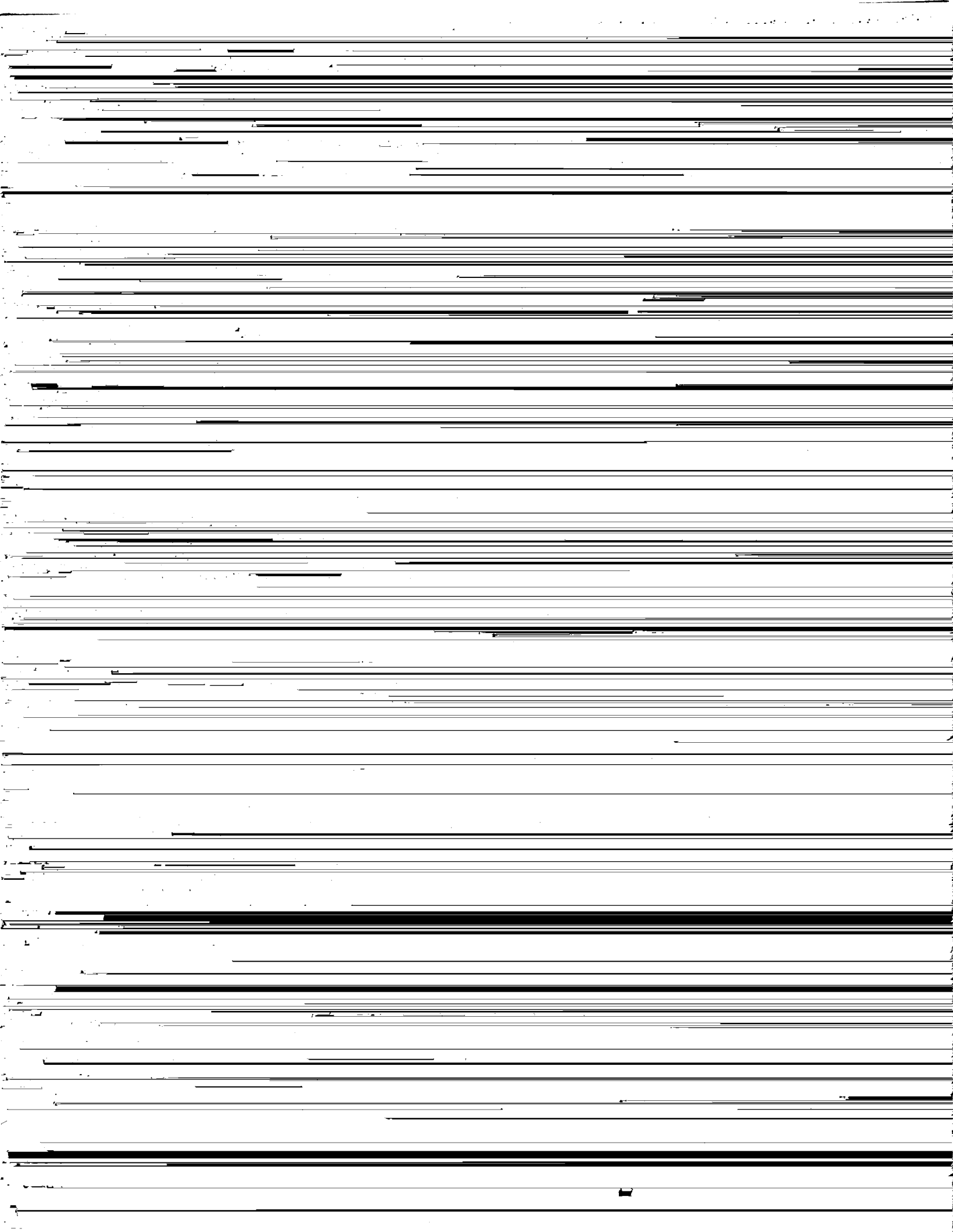
I am retired & derive  
many hours of enjoyment  
building & flying R.C.  
airplanes

I am very concerned  
about the proposed rule that  
is currently under consideration  
by the F.C.C. to allow mobile  
users too close to our assigned  
frequencies for our per. safety &  
crashing our airplanes.

Please help me continue the  
safe enjoyment of my pastime  
by not allowing the F.C.C. to  
carry out its proposal P R Docket  
92-235 for the 72-76 MHz Band

Sincerely

Albert Pearson  
2307 W. 22 St.  
Duluth, Minn.  
55811



Jim  
Randy Sverinsson  
291 Eagle Lk Rd. N.  
Big Lake, MN 55309

Feb. 25, 1993

Dear Sir:

I understand the FCC is trying to push a bill through Congress to add 4 more voice pager frequencies in between our channels. This would make channels 16 thru 41 unuseable.

I am an RC airplane enthusiast. Our frequencies only go to channel 60. Therefore, this would leave us with too few frequencies for the RC enthusiasts.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pasttime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

Randy Sverinsson

January 28, 1993

The Honorable James Oberstar  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Oberstar:

I am retired and derive many hours of enjoyment from constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes.

My concern is about proposed rule changes by the Federal Communications Commission. The changes are included in PR Docket 92-235. At present, fifty frequencies in the 72-76 MHz band are set aside for those of us who participate in this hobby. The new rules would effectively reduce that number to nineteen usable frequencies, a reduction of 62 per cent.

My primary concern over this reduction is that the safety of participants and spectators will be jeopardized. These models can weigh up to 30 pounds and fly at speeds well above 25 mph. Any radio interference destroys the operators ability to maintain control of the aircraft creating a very dangerous situation. Those of us in the hobby realize this and take great pains to enforce frequency control at all flying activities. The proposed rule changes could introduce strong interference from mobile based radios without the knowledge of those operating miniature aircraft. In addition, the reduction of usable frequencies will cause those remaining channels to become very congested further reducing the margin of safety.

Thank you for your efforts in our behalf.

Sincerely,

*Kenneth E. Hamilton*

Kenneth E. Hamilton  
32 E. Redwing  
Duluth, MN 55803

January 31, 1993

THE HONORABLE CLERK

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540

1532 East 8th Street  
Duluth, MN 55812  
January 31, 1993

The Honorable James Oberstar  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: FCC Proposed Rule Docket 92-235

Dear Congressman Oberstar,

As an active builder and flyer of radio control model airplanes, I am very concerned about PR Docket 92-235. This proposal is to create more land mobile frequencies than already share the 72-76 MHz band with model use. It promises to have two major negative effects:

1. Reduction of the 50 frequencies now available to models to only 19.
2. Greater danger of interference from placement of land mobile frequencies closer to radio control model frequencies. The new rule would allow a legal frequency tolerance which could place their signal directly on ours, and they have four times our power.

There are few enough frequencies now, especially when hundreds of modelers are together at a large contest or event. If a second transmitter is turned on to a frequency of another model when that model is flying it will crash. Our club (the Duluth R/C Model Club) polices the frequencies carefully at its activities and makes sure all members are careful, but the safety of the flying environment is dependent on there being enough frequencies so the likelihood of conflict on frequencies is kept below a critical point. The Academy of Model Aeronautics, our national organization, lobbied hard to get the frequencies we have for reasons such as this. To take them away will defeat the most essential purpose for which they were sought—safety. As you may know, people have been injured and

hurt, but a different control move and a couple of more seconds (at 100 miles an hour), and that plane could have hit one of us. One of the members was headed for this guy when he took his model out because no one recognized him and the possibility of a disaster was foreseen, but the newcomer acted too quickly. Most people will check out the scene when we go someplace new, especially when we are going to use someone else's facilities, before acting. This guy wasn't like most people. Fewer frequencies will just multiply this kind of mishap, and escalate it into tragedy too many times.

With the new frequencies (the 1991 standard), we all had to upgrade our equipment to operate in the new environment. It was not inexpensive. In many cases we had to buy new equipment. I both upgraded and bought new equipment in the last couple of years. I have spent close to a thousand dollars on this. This new proposal, if enacted, will put me back to having to repeat that. It will reduce my flying because I won't be able to afford the changes for a while.

The stocks of Motorola and other mobile phone manufacturers went down this past week because of concerns about brain cancer caused by mobile phones, (with their much greater power than model airplane radios, incidentally). Will these devices have to be changed anyway, making the new proposal moot? Will their usage drop because of more information on their dangers that might come out? Would the model fraternity have to suffer for something that would turn out to be unnecessary anyway?

Why should model enthusiasts, who have only gotten access to precious airwaves at the cost of a lot of effort, have to step aside for land mobile radio users? There are hundreds of modelers in the Duluth/Superior area who would be affected by this. They may not do it for business purposes, but someone as involved in aircraft matters as you knows that work in model airplanes results sometimes in advances for the field generally, but particularly in the development of interests in young people that develop into careers in the aircraft field. Several of my model plane building and flying friends are now working in the aircraft industry, and I am teaching the art and science of planes to my youngest daughter and my grandson. The hobby is already so expensive that they won't be able to afford it on their own for years. This proposal will only make it more difficult for them and for thousands of kids like them.

Please help us continue the safe enjoyment of this pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

  
Al Nephew

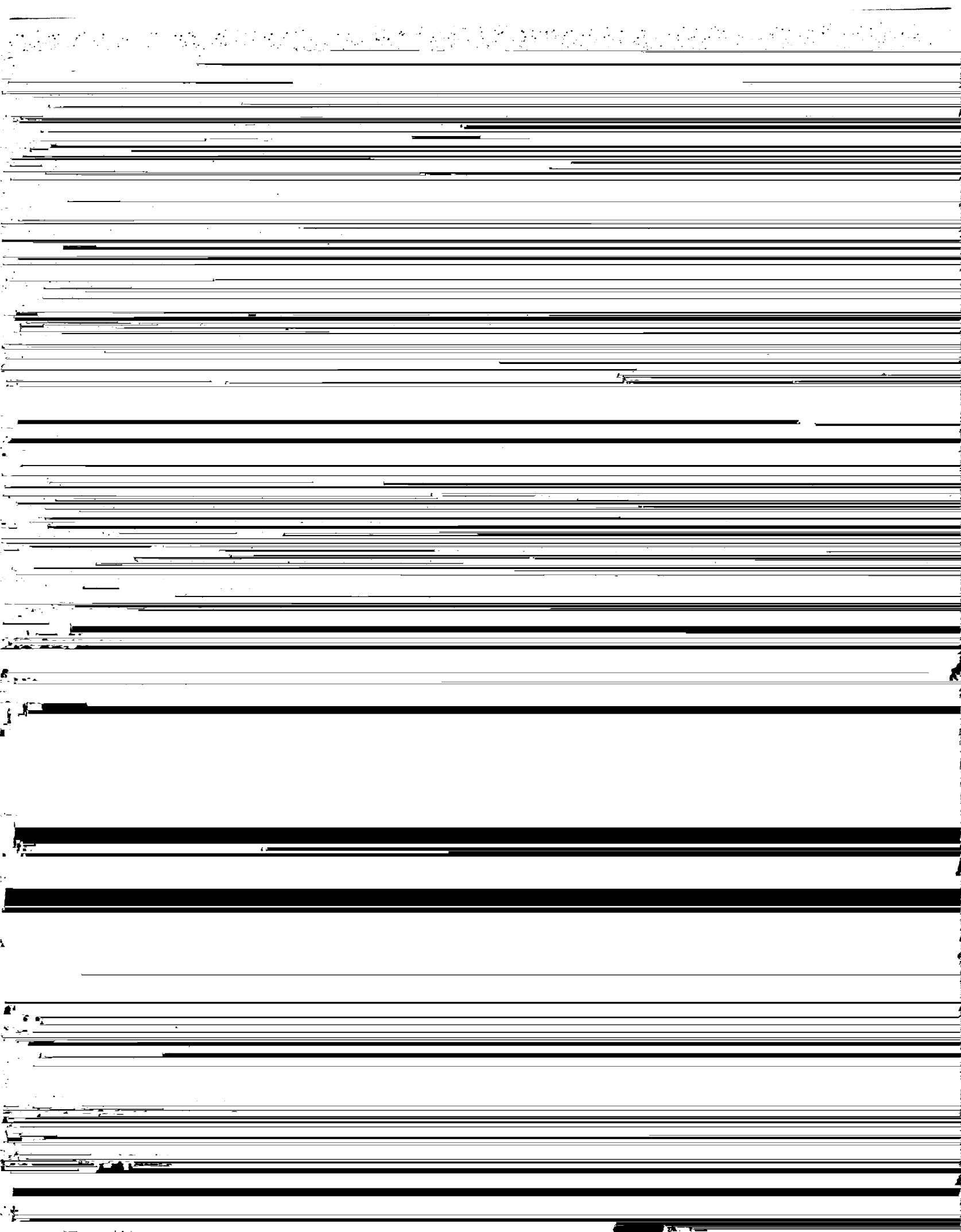
P.S. Incidentally, I very much appreciate your work on behalf of aviation in general and for the maintenance bases here and in Hibbing.



P.O.Box 117  
Knife River, Minnesota 55609  
January 29, 1993

Dear Representative Oberstar,

I am retired and derive many hours of enjoyment from constructing  
and flying radio-controlled model airplanes. I personally own two radios,



January 21, 1993

The Honorable James Oberstar  
2209 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC. 20515

I spend much of my free time flying and working on R/C airplanes and have been interested and enjoy aviation for as long as I can remember. I personally own three radios and five R/C airplanes.

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that is currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The preceding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted the new rule will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for R/C model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability.

Our radio-control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio-control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

The Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in PR Docket 92-235 replaces Part 90 of the rule with a new Part 88. Part 90 allows for safe use of R/C aircraft and surface models by keeping 10 KHz spacing between fixed commercial users and frequencies available to us, eliminating safe use of at least 31 of the 50 channels of the 72 MHz band (for R/C aircraft) and 10 of the 30 frequencies on the 75 MHz band (for R/C cars and boats) now used by hobbyists. In fact, more channels will be affected.

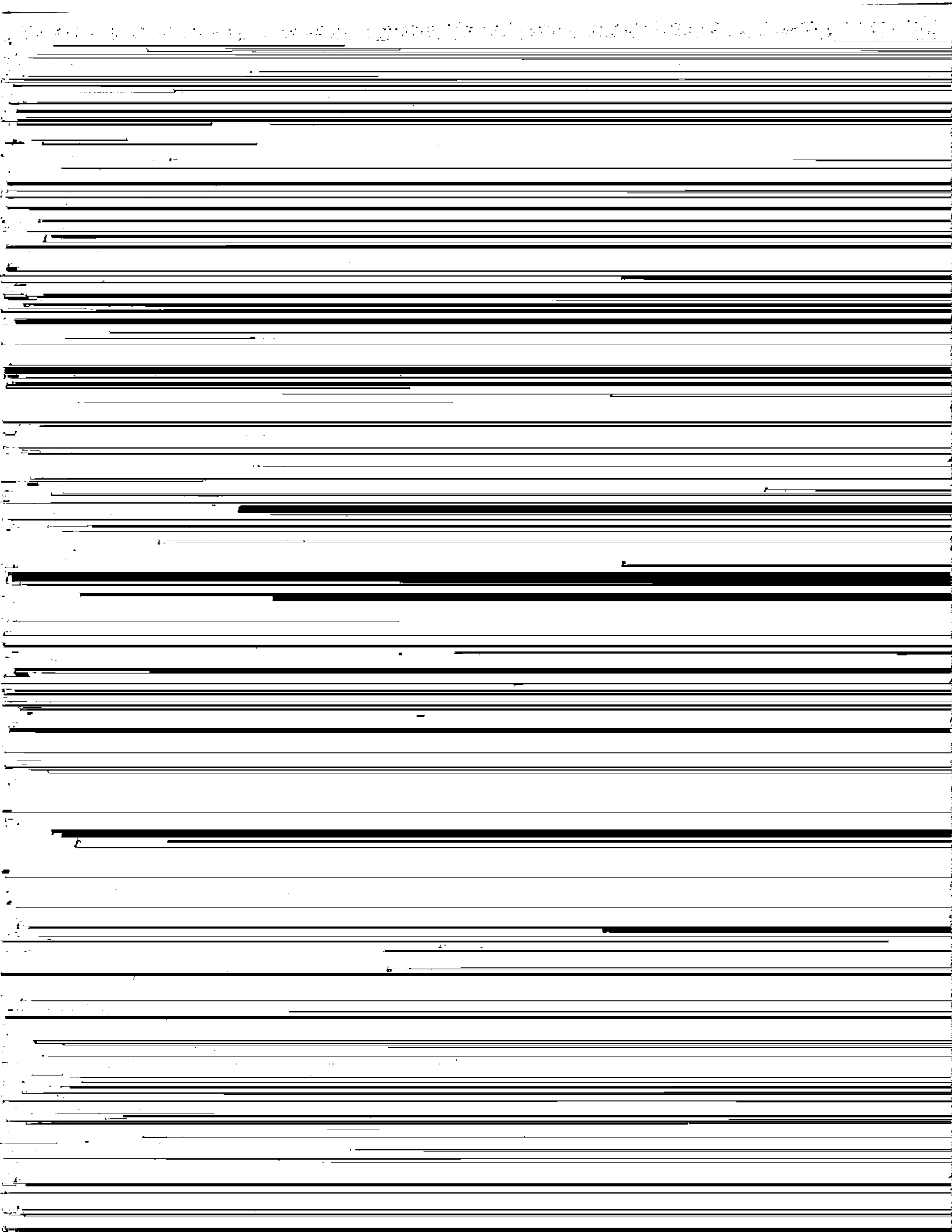
When we operate out R/C models, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

I don't think it is wise of the FCC to seek to expand the operation conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of the radio-control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radio, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. It is a sizeable industry that must be saved from these detrimental FCC actions. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to hundreds of thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposal PR Docket 92-235 for the 72-76 MHz band. We all need your help urgently because the FCC has a deadline of February 26, 1993 after which it may become more difficult to avoid halting these proposals from going into effect.

Sincerely,

Bruce J. Fedler



January 24, 1993

Mr Jim Oberstar  
8th Dist. US Rep  
2209 Rayburn  
House office Bldg  
Washington DC 20515

11918 XEON ST NW.  
COON RAPIDS MN 55433

Dear Sir:

I have been interested in aviation for as long as I can remember. I am very active in a local club whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted.

models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full compliment of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pasttime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposal on the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Dreis', written in a cursive style.

DAN DREIS

Feb. 25, 1993

Dear Sir:

I understand the FCC is trying to push a bill through Congress to add 4 more voice pager frequencies in between our channels. This would make channels 16 thru 41 unuseable.

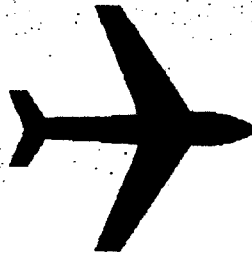
I am an RC airplane enthusiast. Our frequencies only go to channel 60. Therefore, this would leave us with too few frequencies for the RC enthusiasts.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pasttime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

*LeRoy LaVallee*

LeRoy LaVallee  
325 6th Ave. N.E.  
Osseo, MN 55369



Dear Mr. Oberstar:

The FCC is trying to push a bill through Congress to add 4 more voice pager frequencies in between the channels used by the Radio Controlled Hobbies. If this bill (PR Docket 92-235) would pass it would make our channels 16 thru 41 unusable. Not only are these channels too close to ours, they are designated as "MOBILE", therefore we would never know where they are operating. They could be on the highway near by or right in our own pit area. When one of these pagers knocks out our radio, it is a total disaster to our equipment and can be a big danger to the operator and the people watching. It gets real HARD trying to land an airplane when the radio is out because someone turns on a beeper.

The R/C Hobby is one of the fastest growing sports in the US and outside the US today. If this (NEED FOR GREED) bill should happen to be pushed through, it could put this family sport out of business. Along with this would go thousands, tens of thousands of jobs down the tube. I know you don't want this because you said so when you asked me to vote for you. I don't have money to pay some big lobbyist to ask you to not pass this that is why I am writing you. I think keeping these few frequencies we have is much more important than a few pagers for the (NEED FOR GREED) people.

Thank You  
Scott P. Halbach  
18933 Yttrium st nw  
Anoka, MN 55303

*Scott Halbach*